

Readopting 326 IAC 6-4: Fugitive Dust is a Particulate Matter

Much of the dust has settled since the Air Pollution Control Board readopted on August 1, 2001, rules concerning fugitive dust emissions. Although the current rule, 326 IAC 6-4, was not amended, IDEM spent many hours discussing key issues with affected industries, citizens, and other stakeholders.



Fugitive dust can come from construction sites.

Excessive fugitive dust can have serious health impacts. It is also a nuisance. Dust is considered “fugitive” when it escapes beyond the property line of a source. Factory processes or construction site operations, for example, can have emissions that become fugitive dust if they escape beyond the property lines. Rules concerning fugitive dust help reduce airborne dust that could

cause respiratory problems, unsafe conditions, and property damage.

Fugitive dust is nothing to sneeze about. It occurs frequently, and is the second most common air quality concern raised by citizens. Agency-wide, fugitive dust is consistently in the top three of the most frequent pollution complaints.

What lies on the road ahead? Although stakeholders raised a cloud of issues with the fugitive dust rule, IDEM has committed to working further with the stakeholders on the particular issues raised during the rulemaking.



Emissions from factory processes are considered fugitive when they escape beyond the property lines of a source at or near ground level.



Fugitive dust creates hazardous driving conditions when it crosses roadways and reduces visibility.